

***Ethmia funerella* (Fabr.) (Lep.: Oecophoridae) re-found in Somerset**

On 4 June 2000, at Cheddar Wood, Somerset (grid reference ST 4455), I took a striking micro-moth which was unfamiliar to me. This subsequently proved to be *Ethmia funerella*, a Nationally Notable (Na) species, which according to Parsons (1995. *A review of the scarce and threatened ethmiine, stathmopodine and gelechiid moths of Great Britain*) was known from Cheddar prior to 1970. Martin Ellis of the Somerset Moth Group has confirmed that they know of no other records other than that published in Turner, A.H. (1955. *Lepidoptera of Somerset*), namely a record by H. Slater from 1917 listed as "Cheddar".

The current known status of this moth is that it occurs in the Cambridgeshire and Huntingdonshire fens with scattered records on the eastern side of the country from Yorkshire to Kent. The present record suggests that it still persists, probably in low numbers, at this western locality.

The favoured habitat is given as fens and damp woodland, the latter according well with that in Cheddar Wood. Foodplants listed by Parsons are Common Comfrey *Symphytum officinale*, Tuberous Comfrey *S. tuberosum*, Lungwort *Pulmonaria officinalis*, Common Gromwell *Lithospermum officinale* and also Wood Forget-me-not *Myosotis sylvatica*. Although I have yet to confirm the presence of these plants in the wood, the moth was found on a path with a flourishing population of Purple Gromwell *L. purpureoeruleum* and it is possible that this was the plant being used.

The identity of the specimen was confirmed by Ray Barnett and it is now in the collection of the City Museum & Art Gallery, Bristol.— PAUL FLETCHER, 39 Old Church Road, Axbridge, Somerset BS26 2BE.

***Dioryctria schuetzeella* (Fuchs) (Lep.: Pyralidae) new to North Hampshire**

On 12 July 2000, I was pleased to find an unusual pyralid resting partly in rain water on the top of my moth trap here. Fortunately, the moth was undamaged and I am grateful to Barry Goater who has identified it as *Dioryctria schuetzeella* and confirmed its status as new to North Hampshire.

This species, which is widespread on the continent, feeds on Norway Spruce *Picea abies*, and was first recorded as British in Kent during 1980, with a specimen noted in and Sussex during 1981. The first sighting on the Isle of Wight took place in 1985 and from 1992 to 1999 five specimens were recorded in South Hampshire. Although Selbourne is not prime coniferous country, its occurrence here would suggest that the moth may be spreading northwards in this county.— ALASDAIR ASTON, Wake's Cottage, Selborne, Hampshire GU34 3JH.

***Dioryctria schuetzeella* Fuchs (Lep.: Pyralidae), new to Hertfordshire and a modern county record of *Piniphila bifasciana* (Haw.) (Lep.: Tortricidae)**

Having spent all of the previous night, until 5 am., out with the lamps at Rye Meads Nature Reserve on an outing of the Herts. Moth Group, it was with some initial reluctance that I agreed to join Rob Souter at Bramfield Woods, near to Welwyn